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Amendment No. 18 to HB1678

Jones U (Shel)
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 1717*

House Bill No. 1678

by adding the following as new sections to precede the effective date section:

SECTION _____. (a) Upon enactment, a county or municipal legislative body that has previously approved by referendum racing with pari-mutuel wagering shall be permitted in that county or municipality by resolution or ordinance to call a referendum on whether casinos and casino gambling shall be permitted in that county or municipality. Upon approval by the county or municipal legislative body, the county election commission shall call a referendum at the next regularly scheduled county-wide or municipality-wide general election on the question of whether casinos and casino gambling shall be permitted in that county or municipality. The question to be placed on the ballot shall read as follows:

Shall (here insert name of county or municipality) permit casinos and casino gambling?

FOR ____ AGAINST ____

(b) As an alternative to a county or municipality by resolution or ordinance calling a referendum, a petition signed by the residents of a county or municipality, as the case may be, equal to or exceeding a number amounting to ten percent (10%) of the votes cast for sheriff at the last preceding August general election shall require the county election commission to place the question stated in subsection (a) on the ballot at the next regularly scheduled election. No referendum under this act may be placed on the same ballot or conducted on the same day of a primary election. Such petition shall be addressed to the county election commission of such county, or county in which such municipality is located, and shall read, except for such address, substantially as follows:

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"We, registered voters of (here insert name of county or municipality, as the case may be), hereby request the holding of a referendum on the question of whether casinos and casino gambling shall be permitted in this county?"

Such petition may be in two (2) or more parts.

(c) If a county or municipality conducts a referendum under the provisions of this section and the number of qualified votes cast negative to the casino proposition exceeds sixty percent (60%) of the total number of votes cast in the election, no further proposition relative to casino shall be placed on the ballot in that locality for a period of three (3) years from the date of the previous election.

SECTION _____. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.